DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 482 712 SO 034 719

AUTHOR	Gerwin, David; Zevin, Jack
TITLE	Teaching U.S. History as Mystery.
ISBN	ISBN-0-325-00398-X
PUB DATE	2003-00-00
NOTE	163p.
AVAILABLE FROM	Heinemann, 361 Hanover Street, Portsmouth, NH 03801-3912 (paperbound: ISBN-0-325-00398-X, $27.50). Tel: 800-225-5800 (Toll Free); Fax: 603-431-7840; Fax: 603-431-4971; Web site: http://www.heinemann.com.
PUB TYPE	Guides - Classroom - Teacher (052)
EDRS PRICE	Document Not Available From EDRS.
DESCRIPTORS	Class Activities; *Classroom Techniques; *Critical Thinking; Learning Activities; Primary Sources; *Problem Solving; Secondary Education; *Student Research; *Thinking Skills; *United States History
IDENTIFIERS	Historical Explanation; Historical Methods

ABSTRACT

One way to engage students in grades 7 through 12 is to encourage them to investigate history as a puzzle, a set of dilemmas, a collection of conflicting viewpoints in short, a mysterious and provocative subject. In this book a collection of cases have been assembled both real mysteries and purposely constructed classroom problems with techniques for solving them. In addition, these features are incorporated in the book to help teachers teach: rankings for "history mysteries" as minor, medium, or major in complexity; methods for drawing students into problem solving to promote literacy; guidelines and examples for manufacturing mysteries; classroom activities and decision-making exercises, including "Be a Detective" and "You Decide"; and consistent use of materials that promote higher-order thinking skills (analysis, interpretation, viewpoint, and judgment). The book is divided into the six chapters: (1) "Mystery in History: Guidelines and Levels of Investigation"; (2) "Isn't History Always a Mystery? Objectivity and Postmodernism, Plus Sólving a Minor Mystery about the Vietnam War"; (3) "Truer Than True: Looking at Women in the Old West"; (4) "Solved Mysteries?: The Case of Thomas Jefferson and Sally Hemmings"; (5) "Beyond the Bare Facts: Exploring Race and History through Jefferson and Hemmings"; and (6) "Conclusion: Teaching History as Mystery." (BT)

Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made
from the original document.